

Developing Great Leaders in Turbulent Times

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The Army's purpose for being is to "win our nation's wars," but this means far more than just killing or the willingness to be killed. The American warrior has been and will always be more than the soldier fighting at the point of the spear. We deter and respond to aggression, but we also shape the international environment by building regional stability and reducing the possibility of conflict. The Army's responsibilities include everything from destroying targets to caring for and safeguarding civilians and dividing warring factions.



Some worry that a "zero defects" mentality will resurrect itself and that opportunities for assignments and promotion will diminish. Others fear a return to a "hollow army"...[or] concerned that the high OPTEMPO will detract from training to the point that units will lose their warfighting edge. These concerns...highlight another important constant we can never compromise—the Army's concern about taking care of people.

[FM 22-100, Army Leadership, provides] concise and understandable doctrine that demonstrates the important linkages between the intent and actions of soldiers and junior and senior leaders. The field manual puts the "mystery" of leadership into clear, plain language, reaffirming the Army's tested and proven approach to leading. The manual makes clear there are no easy answers, no substitutes for competent, caring and courageous leadership.